

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

The City Of Augusta

Proclamation

IN RECOGNITION of “Asthma Awareness Day”

WHEREAS, asthma is a long-term, inflammatory disease in which the airways of the lungs constrict, causing wheezing, breathlessness, chest tightness, and coughing; and

WHEREAS, exposure to allergens and irritants such as dust mites, mold, cockroaches, pet dander, and secondhand smoke can bring on an asthma episode; and

WHEREAS, asthma has reached epidemic proportions in Georgia, affecting 210,000 children; and

WHEREAS, asthma is the leading cause of childhood hospitalizations, long-term illness, and school absenteeism, accounting for more than 540,000 missed school days in Georgia; and

WHEREAS, African Americans and Caucasians in Georgia are equally affected by asthma, but African Americans are two to three times more likely to be hospitalized for asthma than Caucasians; and

WHEREAS, asthma is the only chronic disease, besides AIDS and TB, with an increasing death rate; and

WHEREAS, each day 14 Americans die from asthma; and

WHEREAS, hospitalization rates are the highest for children under age four in Georgia; and

WHEREAS, there are simple steps the community can take to reduce their exposure to environmental triggers to asthma; and

WHEREAS, the Neighborhood Improvement Project, Inc. is encouraging all Augustans to identify and reduce their exposure to environmental triggers in homes and schools, and incorporate environmental controls into their asthma management plans.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Young, Mayor of the City of Augusta, do hereby proclaim May 1, 2004, as “ASTHMA AWARENESS DAY” in Augusta, Georgia, and urge all citizens to recognize this day.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Augusta, Georgia, to be affixed this 1st day of May 2004.

Mayor